

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 310227 TOSEC 130040
ORIGIN SS-25

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 310227 TOSEC 130040

EXDIS - FOR ATHERTON AND ANDERSON FROM TARNOFF AND SAUNDERS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, EG, IS, US

SUBJECT: SECRETARY'S ATTENDANCE AT JERUSALEM
POLITICAL COMMITTEE.

REF: SECTO 13011

1. PER TARNOFF-ANDERSON TELECON, FOLLOWING FOR YOUR
USE IS DRAFT TELEGRAM TO CAIRO AND TEL AVIV (SUGGEST INFO
TO AMMAN, BEIRUT, DAMASCUS, JIDDA) ON SECRETARY'S ACCEP-
TANCE OF INVITATION TO ATTEND JERUSALEM MEETINGS. ASSUME
YOU WILL SEND FINAL FROM WARSAW. BEGIN TEXT:

2. SECRETARY ASKS THAT YOU CONVEY TO BEGIN AND SADAT
THROUGH WHATEVER CHANNELS YOU REGARD AS APPROPRIATE HIS
APPRECIATION FOR THEIR INVITATIONS TO ATTEND THE
OPENING SESSIONS OF THE POLITICAL COMMITTEE WHICH IS
PLANNED TO BEGIN IN JERUSALEM ABOUT JANUARY 15. YOU SHOULD
ADD THAT THE PRESIDENT AND HE GIVE THIS HIGH PRIORITY AND
THAT WE WILL DO ALL WE CAN IN SUPPORT OF THE NEGOTIATING
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PARTIES TO HELP MAKE THESE NEGOTIATIONS THE SUCCESS THAT
WE ALL DESIRE.

3. PLEASE EXPLAIN THAT THE SECRETARY WOULD APPRECIATE
IT VERY MUCH IF THE OPENING MEETING COULD TAKE PLACE IN
THE AFTERNOON OF JANUARY 16. DURING THE FEW DAYS HE
WILL HAVE IN WASHINGTON BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT'S TRIP

AND HIS GOING TO JERUSALEM HE IS SCHEDULED TO MAKE SEVERAL IMPORTANT SPEECHES WHICH CANNOT BE CHANGED. HE WOULD LIKE TO LEAVE WASHINGTON AT ABOUT MIDNIGHT ON JANUARY 14 AND ARRIVE IN JERUSALEM (OR CAIRO) IN THE LATE AFTERNOON OF JANUARY 15. HE WOULD PREFER NOT TO HAVE TO ATTEND ANY MEETINGS AFTER THAT LONG FLIGHT BUT WOULD BE PREPARED TO PARTICIPATE IN TALKS ON JANUARY 16 AND 17. HE WILL ONLY BE ABLE TO SPEND THESE TWO DAYS IN JERUSALEM BUT, OF COURSE, A US DELEGATION WILL REMAIN TO CONTINUE OUR PARTICIPATION IN THE TALKS AS LONG AS IS NECESSARY. HE WOULD LIKE TO LEAVE EITHER THE NIGHT OF THE 17TH OR EARLY MORNING OF THE 18TH FOR WASHINGTON.

4. FOR CAIRO: SECRETARY WOULD BE PREPARED TO STOP IN EGYPT FOR ONE MEETING WITH PRESIDENT SADAT EN ROUTE IF THE PRESIDENT WOULD FIND THAT USEFUL. OUR TENTATIVE THINKING WOULD BE TO STOP FOR A FEW HOURS ON THE WAY BACK FROM JERUSALEM TO WASHINGTON ON THE AFTERNOON OF JANUARY 17, BUT WOULD BE PREPARED TO OVERNIGHT ON JANUARY 15 FOR TALKS IN EGYPT BEFORE GOING ON TO JERUSALEM LATE MORNING JANUARY 16 IF PRESIDENT SADAT PREFERRED.

4. FOR ATHERTON: ASSUME YOU ARE WEIGHING THE QUESTION OF WHETHER TO SEE SADAT BEFORE BEGIN OR AFTER. WE RECOMMEND SEEING SADAT FIRST BECAUSE THE SECRETARY
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IN DISCUSSING WITH BEGIN THE ADEQUACIES AND INADEQUACIES OF THE BEGIN PLAN WILL NEED TO UNDERSTAND WHAT SADAT CAN AND CANNOT LIVE WITH. OF COURSE, HERMANN COULD HAVE THAT CONVERSATION WITH SADAT BUT THE SECRETARY MIGHT WANT TO TRY OUT ON SADAT HIS OWN IDEAS ON HOW THE WESTBANK/GAZA PLAN MIGHT BE DEVELOPED TO MAKE IT MORE USEFUL AS A TRANSITIONAL STEP CHRISTOPHER

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